

THE NYMPH OF *UTAPERLA SOPLADORA* RICKER
(PLECOPTERA: CHLOROPERLIDAE)^{1, 2}

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ABSTRACT: The nymph of *Utaperla sopladora* Ricker is described for the first time from a last-instar male from the Ruby Mountains, Elko County, Nevada. Figures of the complete nymph, head and pronotum, mouthparts, abdominal segments and cerci are included.

DESCRIPTORS: Plecoptera; Chloroperlidae; *Utaperla sopladora* Ricker; nymph; Nevada.

Utaperla sopladora was originally described by Ricker (1952) but the nymph has remained unknown. The species range extends from Alaska and the Yukon to Idaho, Montana and Utah (Gaufin, et al. 1966; Nelson and Hanson 1969; Ricker 1964). The collection of a nymph upon which this paper is based adds Nevada to the record.

A single, last-instar male nymph was collected by Mary and Eric Cather in Lamoille Creek at 2250 m elevation, Lamoille Canyon Road, 2 miles above Camp Lamoille, Ruby Mountains, Elko County. The date of collection was 6-VII-74. The specimen is deposited at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

¹ Accepted for publication: January 31, 1975

² Study supported by Dept. of Biol., Univ. of Utah.

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Last-instar male:

Length of body 6.5 mm; dorsum dark with little patterning; venter light with dark patches on thorax and abdomen. Body covered with minute dark setae. Characteristics of adult male visible through cuticle (fig. 1).

Head mostly dark with narrow light band on anterior margin of frons, extending back on lateral margin of head to compound eyes. Head as wide as long, narrowing anteriorly to compound eyes.

Labium (fig. 2) with paraglossae twice as long as glossae; palpi thick, twice as long as paraglossae. Paraglossae and glossae apically pointed. Major cusp of lacinia (fig. 3) long and tapering; minor cusp small, arising at base of major cusp. Few equally-spaced setae posterior to teeth. Several densely clumped setae near base of lacinia. Conspicuous cluster of spines on stipes at base of palpus. Mandibles (fig. 4) tridentate, distal-most tooth lightly serrated on inner margin.

Pronotum (fig. 5) uniformly dark, wide as long; several long setae on anterolateral angles. Setae on posterior margin sparse. Marginal groove distinct anteriorly. Femora and tibiae with scattered long setae; naked median longitudinal area present. Tarsal segments 1 and 2 small and subequal; segment 3 longer than 1 and 2 combined.

Abdomen brown with dark median stripe on terga 1-8; lateral dark markings on terga 1-7. Posterior fringe on abdominal terga interrupted mesally (fig. 6); mesolateral margins of abdominal segments bearing patches of setae (fig. 7). Cerci (fig. 8) about 3/4 length of abdomen; approximately 17 segments. Segments with long setae on posterior margin.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors extend special thanks to Dr. B.P. Stark for his kind assistance and suggestions and to Dr. R.W. Baumann for his critical evaluation of the manuscript.

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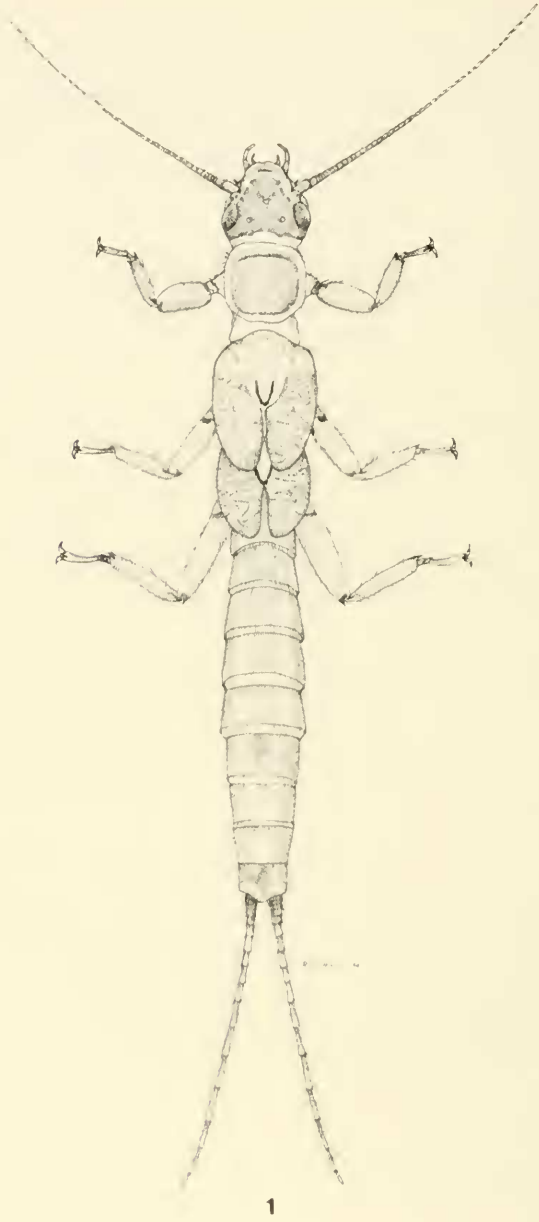


Fig. 1. *Utaerla sopladora* Ricker. Male mature nymph.

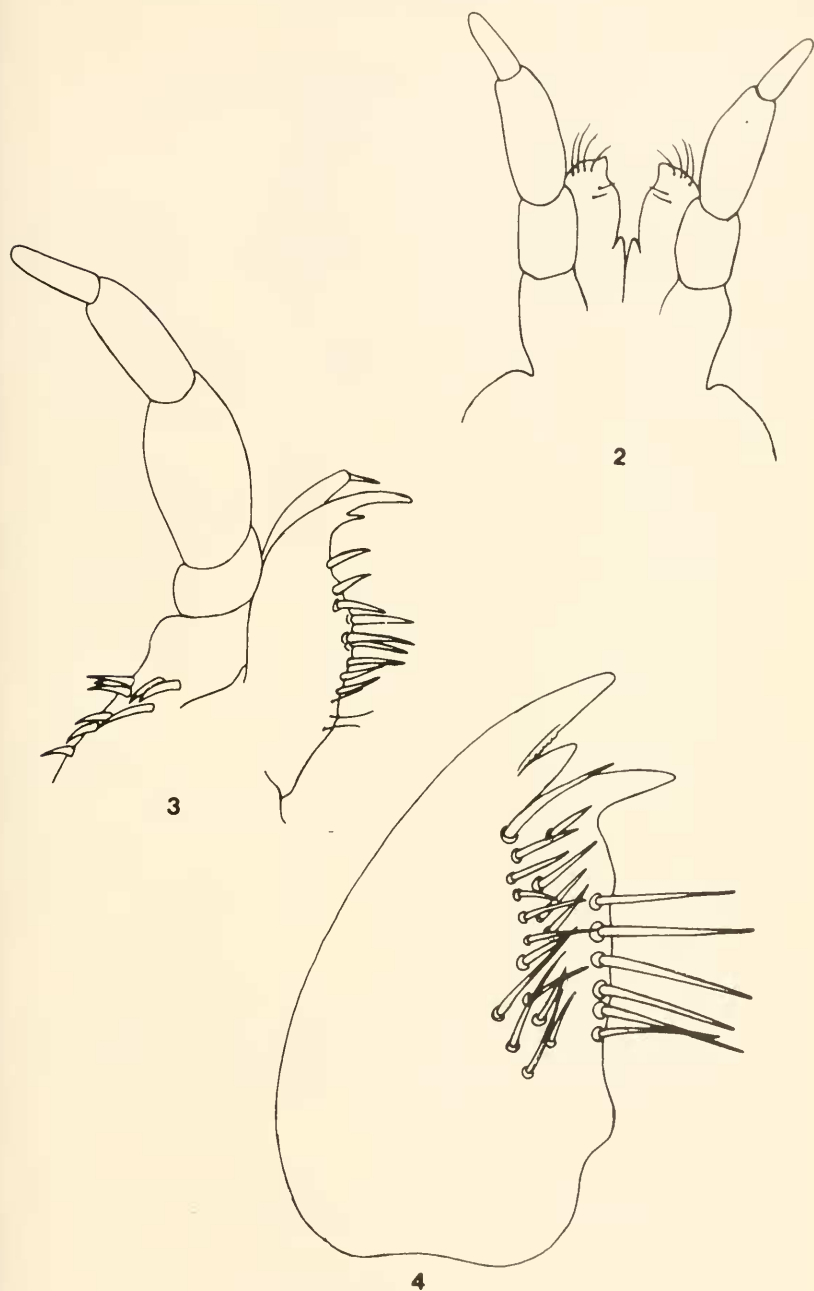


Fig. 2. Labium. Fig. 3. Maxilla. Fig. 4. Mandible.

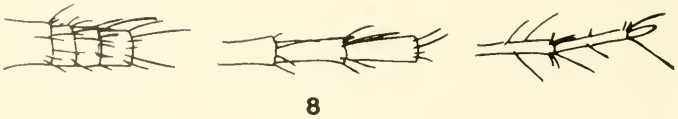
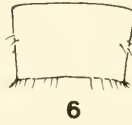
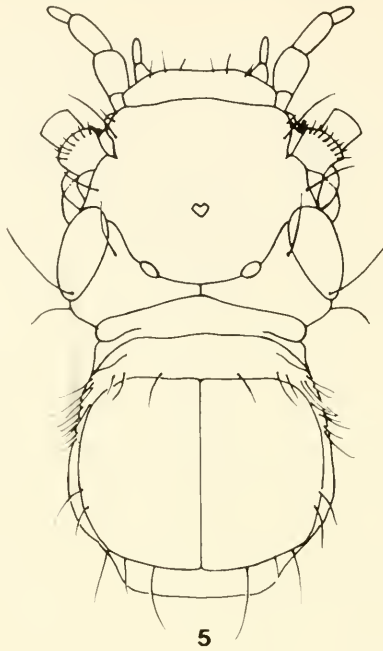


Fig. 5. Head and pronotum.

Fig. 6. Eighth abdominal segment (dorsal view).

Fig. 7. Eighth abdominal segment (lateral view).

Fig. 8. Cercal segments.